



New Internationalist

The people, the ideas, the action in the fight for global justice

CUBA

NEW INTERNATIONALIST
EASIER ENGLISH
Intermediate
READY LESSON



This lesson:

Speaking 1: discussing graphs

Grammar focus: making
comparisons

Speaking 2: quiz

Reading 1: skimming

Reading 2: for detail

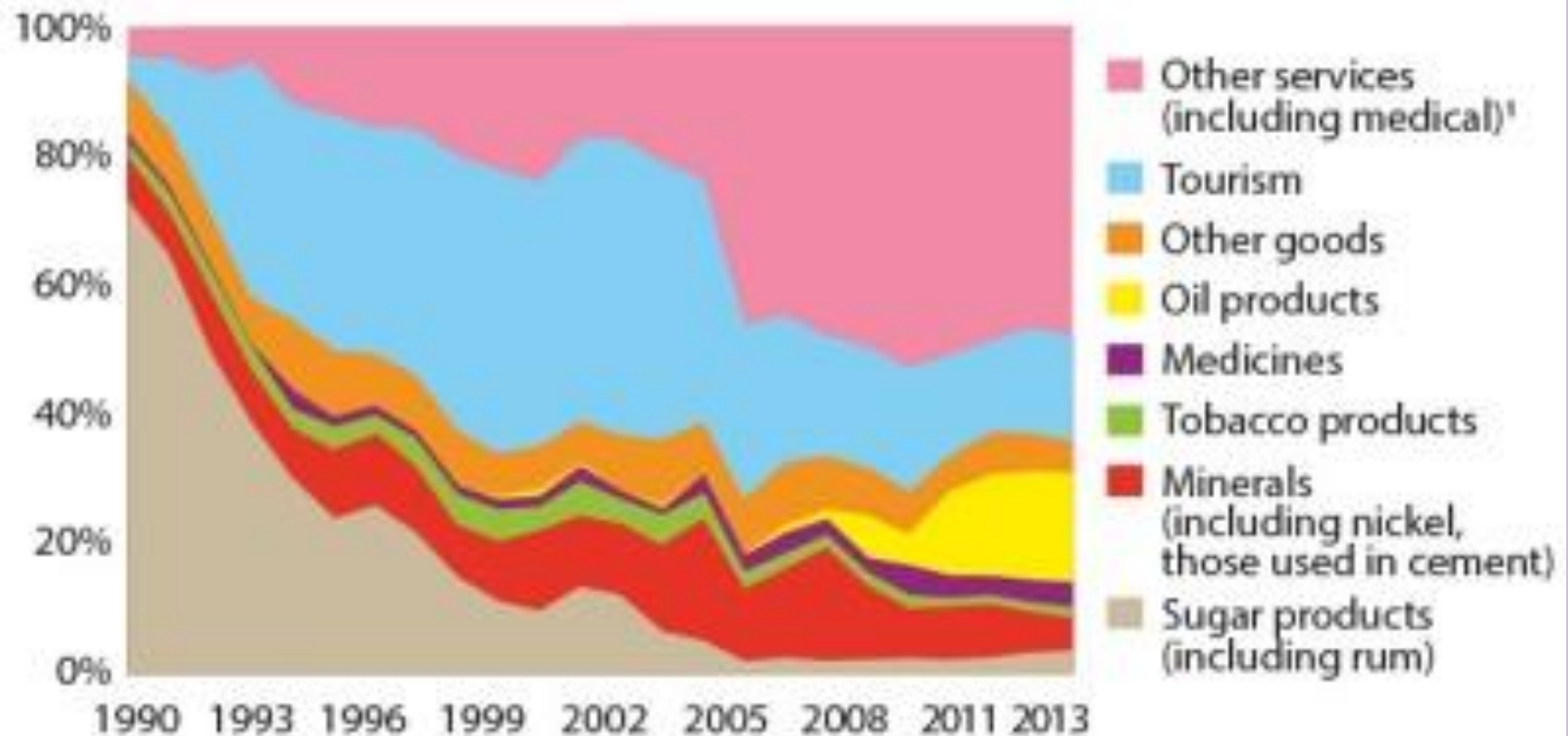
Writing: captions for photos

Reading 3: to compare captions

Think / discuss:

- 1) What is this graph showing?
- 2) How can you explain the changes?

Export composition 1990-2013



Only one of these sentences is
correct? Which one?
Correct the other two:

1/ Cuba now exports far less rum
as they used to.

2/ Cuba exports great deal more
oil products now.

3/ Now Cuba exports a lot more
medical services than before.

Think / discuss: Why does Cuba trade with these countries?

Trading partners¹



Main import trading partners (2012):

Venezuela 44%²
China 9%
Spain 7.3%
Brazil 4.7%
Others 35.0%

Main export trading partners (2012):

Venezuela 41.6%
Netherlands 11.7%
Canada 9.2%
China 7.7%
Others 29.8%

¹ Goods trade only

² This figure may include US goods produced by US subsidiaries in Venezuela and 'smuggled' into Cuba, avoiding the embargo.

Cuban Office of National Statistics and Information (ONEI)

Only one of these sentences is
correct – which one?
Correct the other two:

1/ More of their imports came from Venezuela than anywhere other.

2/ They exported most to Venezuela than to any other country.

3/ They imported slightly more from Spain than from Brazil.

1/ How old is Cuba's leader Raul Castro?

QUIZ

a) 73

b) 83

c) 93

2/ And how old is Fidel Castro (Cuba's leader before his brother Raul)?

a) 78

b) 88

c) 98

3/ How much does a car cost in Cuba that costs \$30,000 in Europe?

a) \$3,000

b) \$50,000

c) \$120,000

4/ Until when was it illegal for Cubans to use internet from their home computers?

a) May 1989

b) May 2000

c) May 2014

5/ When will President Raul Castro leave politics as President?

a) 2015

b) 2018

c) 2025

6/ What % of the Government deputies in Cuba are in the Communist Party?

a) 50%

b) 73%

c) 98%

7/ When was the revolution in Cuba?

a) 1959

b) 1960

c) 1961

8/ And when was the Cuban missile crisis?

a) 1961

b) 1962

c) 1963

9/ How much will the new Cuban port at Mariel cost?

a) \$9 million

b) \$90 million

c) \$900 million

10/ How many doctors have Cuba sent to Venezuela?

a) 300

b) 3,000

c) 30,000

Now check the answers - skim these articles:



A) **Questions 1, 2, 3:**

“A new Cuba”

http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/A_new_Cuba

B) **Questions 4, 5, 6:**

“Cuba – the communist party and the media”

http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Cuba_%E2%80%93_the_communist_party_and_the_media

C) **Questions 7, 8, 9, 10:**

“Cuba’s big bet”

http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Cuba%27s_big_bet

(If you need the answers, see: http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/CUBA_quiz:_answers)

Now read the articles again:

1) Find three positive points about Cuba
And three problems Cuba has in each of the 3 articles. Compare with others.



2) Choose one of the articles to read in the original version – click on the link at the bottom of the Easy English article. Compare / learn from the differences in the language between the two.

Decide on captions for these photos:



Now check in the Photo Story:

http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/PHOTO_ESSAY:_Cuba_is_changing

